

HOUSE BILL 2613

By Cobb J

AN ACT to name a segment of U.S. Highway 11 in Loudon County in honor of the late Trey Lefler.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor the memory of those exemplary public servants who contributed significantly to the growth and prosperity of their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, no Tennessean is more deserving of this honor than the late Trey Lefler of Loudon and Nashville; and

WHEREAS, Trey Lefler was a person of impeccable morals and irreproachable integrity who worked assiduously to establish a brighter future for his fellow Tennesseans and Americans; and

WHEREAS, at the time of his death, Mr. Lefler was serving with acumen and alacrity as a State Field Representative for U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander's 2008 re-election campaign, in which position he had earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; prior to that, he worked as an aide in Senator Alexander's office in Washington, D.C., as well as in the office of Jeffrey J. Kimbell and Associates, as a summer intern at the Pentagon, and in the office of United States Senator Bill Frist; and

WHEREAS, while in Washington, D.C., Mr. Lefler lent his innumerable talents as a board member of the Capital Club of Washington, a mentor in the "Everybody Wins" reading program, a founding member of the Capitol Entertainment Group, and as a utility player for the Chiefs Softball Team; and

WHEREAS, Trey's intellectual aptitude, strong leadership skills, and athletic prowess were evidenced early on as he was named Valedictorian of the Loudon High School Class of 2000 and served as captain of the mighty Redskins football and basketball teams; he was also a member of the 4-H program and the recipient of several honors recognizing leadership and

service, including the Henry Blackburn Football Award and the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen distinction; and

WHEREAS, Trey was a proud graduate of the University of the South, Sewanee, where his parents, stepfather, and numerous family members also attended; and

WHEREAS, during his studies at Sewanee, Trey evinced the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; he was a Highlander, a “ninja,” and a member of the Kappa Alpha Order and the Order of Gownsmen, as well as Captain of the Sewanee Tigers Basketball team; and

WHEREAS, a public-spirited citizen of the highest order, Mr. Lefler participated in the St. James Pilgrimage to Santiago, Spain, and an outreach trip to Kingston, Jamaica; his exuberance in life and passion for others cannot be captured in words; and

WHEREAS, Trey Lefler was an active and devout member of The Episcopal Church, which he served faithfully and proudly his entire life; he modeled his life after the second commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself “(Matthew 22:39); and

WHEREAS, in addition to his deep devotion to the Lord, Trey was also deeply attached to his family and friends, as well as to his state and country, and his favorite team, the Alabama Crimson Tide; and

WHEREAS, as a natural extension of his loving and generous spirit, Trey chose to be an organ donor and, through his death, is saving the lives of at least five others; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to provide for a lasting tribute to an astute, generous, and honorable Tennessean who lived a bountiful life of purpose and commitment; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the segment of U.S. Highway 11 in Loudon County from the southern approach of the bridge that spans the Tennessee River on such highway in the City of Loudon southward to a point two (2) miles south of such bridge is hereby designated as the "Trey Lefler Memorial Highway".

SECTION 2. The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the segment of U.S. Highway 11 described in Section 1 as the "Trey Lefler Memorial Highway".

SECTION 3. The erection of such directional signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall become operative only if the cost of the manufacture and installation of such signs is paid to the department of transportation from non-state funds within one (1) year of the effective date of this act. Such payment shall be made prior to any expenditure by the state for the manufacture or installation of such signs. The department shall return any unused portion of the estimated cost to the person or entity paying for such signs within thirty (30) days of the erection of such signs. If the actual cost exceeds the estimated cost, an amount equal to the difference in such costs shall be remitted to the department in non-state funds within thirty (30) days of the sponsoring person or entity receiving an itemized invoice of the actual cost from the department.

SECTION 6. The appellation "Trey Lefler Memorial Highway" provided for in this act is for honorary purposes only and nothing contained herein shall be construed as requiring the alteration of any address, or the governmental system for assigning addresses, in any county, municipality or other governmental entity affected by this act.

SECTION 7. Nothing contained in this act shall be construed as requiring the alteration of any previously named segment or segments of any highway described in this act as the "Trey Lefler Memorial Highway".

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.